

**BUILDING DIVISION DIRECTIVE
M-001**

**Domestic Dryer Vent
Length Limitation**

**Reference: CMC 504.3.2.2
Date: May 22, 2009**

Dryer vent length shall be limited as follows:

1. The total combined vertical and horizontal length of a dryer vent shall not exceed fourteen feet and shall not have more than two 90 degree elbows. Two feet shall be deducted from the dryer vent length for each 90 degree elbow in excess of two. See section 504.3.2.2 of the California Mechanical Code (CMC).
2. When conditions prohibit compliance with CMC section 504.3.2.2, use the dryer's manufacturer's installation instructions and the following:
 - a) The make and the model of the clothes dryer and the corresponding manufacturer's installation instructions shall be provided to the Building Division.
 - b) Regardless of the manufacturer's installation instructions, the maximum allowable equivalent length of the vent shall not exceed thirty five feet.
 - c) The length of the vent shall be measured from the transition duct connected to the dryer up to the outlet terminal.
 - d) The equivalent length of the vent shall be the total combined vertical and horizontal length less the equivalent length of fittings installed. The equivalent length of fittings shall be determined using the table below.

**DRYER EXHAUST DUCT FITTING EQUIVALENT
LENGTH**

Dryer Exhaust Duct Equivalent Length	Fitting Type (feet)
4" radius mitered 45 degree elbow	2-1/2 feet
4" radius mitered 90 degree elbow	5 feet
6" radius smooth 45 degree elbow	1 feet
6" radius smooth 90 degree elbow	1 foot 9 inch
8" radius smooth 45 degree elbow	1 foot
8" radius smooth 90 degree elbow	1 foot 7 inch
10" radius smooth 45 degree elbow	9 inches
10" radius smooth 90 degree elbow	1-1/2 feet

- e) A durable placard at least 4 inches vertically and 5 inches horizontally, shall be permanently affixed on a wall visible from and close to the dryer location. The placard shall provide the actual length of the installed dryer exhaust vent. The following is an example of such placard:

WARNING

CHECK THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTALLATION
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ANY DOMESTIC DRYER
THAT WILL BE INSTALLED AT THIS LOCATION.
THE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTION SHOULD
ALLOW THE DRYER TO BE CONNECTED TO AN
EXHAUST DUCT (VENT) THAT IS ____ FEET.

DO NOT REMOVE THIS PLACARD

3. The use of booster fans to increase the allowable vent length is not permitted for dryer vent applications.

Approved by:



Edward Tolentino
Chief Building Official